

## **Washington County Growth and Conservation Act of 2006 Draft Proposal – Statements of Support**

---

"I fully endorse Senator Bennett's Washington County land-use management legislation. Passage of the Washington County land-use management plan will set an important precedent for other Utah counties to follow and improve upon. Should we be successful in getting this plan passed by Congress this year, I will introduce similar land-use legislation to help additional Utah counties next year."

Senator Orrin G. Hatch

"This is a great example of the right way to do land use planning. Rather than having wilderness and other public land decisions mandated from Washington, those decisions should result from a process like this - a process driven by those most impacted."

Congressman Chris Cannon

"With the successful creation of the Cedar Mountain Wilderness a few months ago, we showed that all the players can come to the table and work out a decent product. We look forward to working with Senator Bennett in having this attempt be as successful as the previous delegation effort."

Congressman Rob Bishop

"I applaud this unprecedented effort which seeks to hear out all points of view on an issue as important as land use. In a region that is among the fastest growing in America, we can't afford to get it wrong. I appreciate the efforts of Sen. Bennett and the Utah congressional delegation and support their work."

Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.

"I am excited to see the proposal. It came with much hard work from a broad group of stake holders. It will provide the county with the utility, transportation and water corridors so important to our future, as well as a variety of conservation measures and endangered species protection."

Alan Gardner  
Washington County Commissioner

"Having been privileged to sit as a sportsman's representative on the Washington Land Use Planning committee, I applaud the efforts the committee and those of Wash. Co. Not only were the needs of sportsmen and wildlife justly addressed, but the process allowed all interest groups to have a voice. A great example of communication!"

Gregg McGregor  
Board of Directors,  
Sportsmen For Fish & Wildlife

“The Land Bill is the result of hard work by many people with differing interests. The proposed bill may not give everyone everything they want but we believe it strikes a reasonable balance, especially when you consider that we also expect to see a county-wide planning process that will help all of us to achieve a vision of what we want this area to look like over time. This bill will solve long-standing issues for Washington County that need to be addressed now regarding where development can occur and what lands should be protected from development. These issues will only become harder to resolve in the future if this bill is not passed, so I hope that our delegation is successful in moving this bill through Congress.”

Ron Thompson  
General Manager, Washington County  
Water Conservancy District

“It was a lot of work to help plan the future land use of Washington County, but it is rewarding also. I feel the planning team was able to do a good job balancing recreational use, and wilderness designation, while also taking into consideration the needs of the cities, and the county.”

Doug Syphus  
Rep of Outdoor Industry Association

“As a member of the Washington County Land Use Bill Advisory Committee it was a great experience to participate with the many stakeholders representing environmental, municipal, county, recreational, ranching and private development interests. The meetings were effectively facilitated and were well prepared for. I am impressed that so many divergent positions and agendas could sit down to the table and curtail personal agendas in an attempt to find the best solutions for Washington County, its people and its beautiful environment. It is an exciting time to be living in Washington County and I appreciate the work of both Senator Bennett’s and Congressman Matheson’s offices in breathing life into our Advisory Committees recommendations.”

Carol Sapp BIAE  
Chief Executive Officer  
Southern Utah Home Builders Association

“By design, the High Desert Trail will organize existing travel routes into a logical and easily manageable recreational travel system. We believe such organization and management will create not only outstanding opportunities for trail related recreation, but will also afford a significant level of environmental protection. Our experience has repeatedly shown that effective off-highway vehicle management hinges on having mapped and signed trail systems that provide quality recreational experiences.”

Mary Tullius, Director  
Utah State Division of  
State Parks and Recreation